Spirit of 99

CENTRAL OHIO NINETY NINERS INC.

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Spirit of 99

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF CENTRAL OHIO NINETY-NINERS

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Central Ohio Ninety Niners Inc. is a non profit organization comprised of MEMBERS who own or use the TI99/4A computer and it's related products and have paid a yearly membership fee of $20.00 and whose main objective is the exchange of Educatioal and Scientific information for the purpose of computer literacy.

C.O.N.N.I. meetings are held the Second Saturday of each month at the Martin Janis Senior Center on East Eleventh Ave. at the Ohio State fairgrounds.

Meeting time is at 9:00 AM, Meetings are open to the public.

Membership dues $20.00) are payable yearly to C.O.N.N.I. and cover the immediate family of the member. (An application has been placed in this newsletter for your convenience) Please address it to:

EVERETT WADE
179 ERIE RD
COLUMBUS, OH 43214

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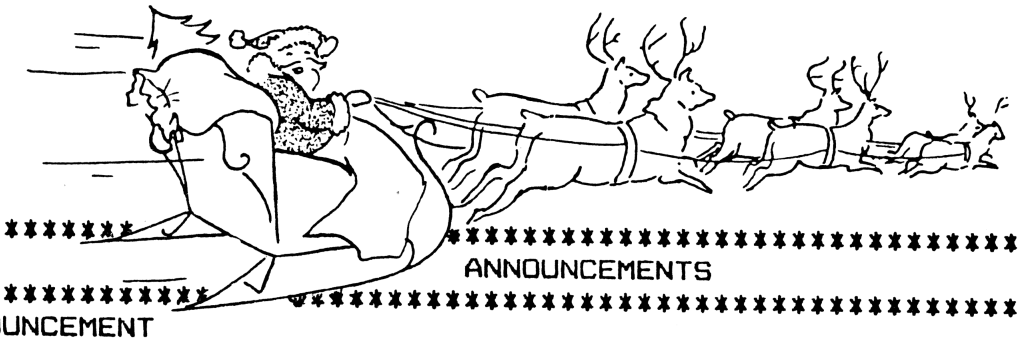


ANNOUNCEMENTS

DUES ANNOUNCEMENT

Dues are usually paid at or before the March meeting, and are $20 per year for full membership, library and voting privileges, plus the newsletter. If only the newsletter is desired, then payment is $15 per year. Those who join during other months of the year pay a lesser, pro-rated amount:

Apr---18.00...May---16.66...Jun---15.00...Jul---13.33...Aug---11.66
Sep---10.00...Oct----8.33...Nov----6.66...Dec----5.00...Jan----3.33
Feb----1.66

Fill out an application blank (one on the back of this newsletter), make a check out to C.O.N.N.I. and give to Everett Wade, the Membership Registrar, at one of the meetings or mail to him at the following address:

Everett Wade
179 Erie Rd
Columbus, OH 43214

MEETING AGENDA

SATURDAY
DEC 12, 1987

09 AM Raffle tickets for sale on the Horizon Ram Disk $1 per ticket, with no limit.

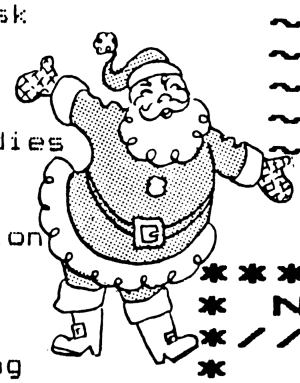
Coffee and goodies for sale!!

09:30 Beginners session Questions and Answers

10 AM Business Meeting

11 AM Karl Romstedt will Demo some of his programs
Dick Beery will Demo a Geneology program

BULLETINS



~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~
~ WELCOME ~
~ MEMBER ~
~ RENEWAL ~
~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~
~ ELIZABETH A. ~
~ DeSHETLER ~
~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~

NEWSLETTER LIBRARIAN

-NOTICE- RETURN ADDRESS

*For our SPIRIT of 99 Newsletter Librarian is !!!!!!

DICK HEIM
8055 SIMFIELD RD.
DUBLIN, OHIO 43017
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THE TIGERCUB GROWLS..... by Jim Peterson

GROWL #1. Arto Heino in Australia, being unemployed and in need of income, wrote a great program called Picasso Publisher. He is selling it in Australia through the Sydney User Group, and was hoping to find a U.S. software publisher to handle it in this country.

A user in Australia sent a copy to a user in California, and erroneously stated that it was fairware, although the program bears a copyright notice and no mention of fairware. The California user uploaded it to GENIE, the SYSOP of GENIE accepted it, and it has by now been downloaded and uploaded back to every BBS in the country!

So, another good programmer's livelihood has been ruined, and we will all suffer as a result. I am sure that Arto Heino will not be writing any updates to his program and will not be writing anything more for us.

Now, if you have Picasso Publisher in your files, and if you are one of the honest users among us, you have two choices. Delete it or pay for it. And don't just pay what you want to, because it is not fairware. The price is $20 Australian, which is $14.00 American if our dollar does not become even more worthless by the time this is printed. If you think that is too much, take a look in a computer magazine and see what such a program for any other computer would cost you. I hope that every user group will take up a collection and send it on to Mr. Heino.

GROWL #2. I recently found time to download a diskfull of programs from a BBS, and found that three of them had a Texas Instruments copyright notice staring at me from the screen. Two of them were old TI cassette programs which are still listed in the catalog of a major mail order house, the third was a dumped arcade game module.

Now, passing this stuff around is not hurting Texas Instruments, because they have unloaded all their stocks to retailers. It is hurting those retailers, who are still supporting us - and if they quit, we are really in deep do-do! Texas Instruments has stated that they are definitely defending their copyrights on that material, because they have an obligation to those retailers.

If the person who uploaded those programs obtained them legally - which I greatly doubt - he had a legal right to make one archive copy for his personal use. He did not have a legal right to make a copy to the program disk of a BBS, and he exposed himself to prosecution by doing so, because his user number was recorded as the uploader.

He also exposed the SYSOP of the BBS to possible prosecution. The BBS SYSOPs are giving a great deal of their time and equipment to providing us with a free service for our messages, and a source of free programs, and they should not be endangered by irresponsible individuals. There have have been repeated attempts to to restrict BBS operations by Federal legislation, to to curb the illegal activities of some individuals, so let's not add fuel to that fire! In my opinion, anyone who uploads copyrighted material should be permanently barred from the BBS.

GROWL #3. Programmers, please don't put a copyright notice on a program unless you really want to restrict its distribution! There are folks out there who are trying to avoid being involved in piracy, but you are making it difficult. If you're going to give the program to everyone, and you don't care who they give it to, don't label it as a copyrighted production of Super Fantastic Software Inc. If it is fairware/shareware, say so right on the title screen. If you want to give it away but you don't want somebody else selling it, or taking credit for it, or modifying it, say so on the title screen. After a certain Florida outfit started selling some of my public domain for more than I was charging for copyrighted programs, I started titling my more worthwhile efforts as "copyright Tigercub Software, for free distribution but no price or copying fee may be charged."

GROWL #4. Folks, when you upload something to a BBS, and you are prompted for a file description - won't you please give the complete program name, the author's name if possible, and the hardware required to run it? I'm getting awfully tired of spending an hour or so downloading and unpacking files, and finding nothing that I want because it is something I alreadyv have (sometimes something I wrote myself!), or requiring equipment I don't have - or copyrighted. Is "FILSORL, a great utility" worth downloading? Is "OTHELLO" one of the four versions I already have, or has someone perhaps written a better one? Is "the very latest version of Funlwriter" a later version than the one I have? (Please, at least mention version numbers, that's why the authors use them!) Are you one of the many who spent money downloading 290 sectors of TE2SINGS from GENIE, when you already had Barb Berg's TI-SINGS?

With the proliferation of programs being written for the Tool Shed, the Gram Kracker, the various new versions of Extended Basic, the Super Cart, etc., it is becoming very frustrating to even determine why a downloaded program won't run for you!

$$$

PROGRAMMING TIP

(This tip came from the Cleveland Area 99-er User Group newsletter. Thanks.).

If you have difficulty finding which Joystick is to be used in a program, try the following routine. All you do is push the Fire Button on either Joystick and the computer will remember which one you are using.

```
100 CALL KEY (1,J1,S)
110 CALL KEY (2,J2,S)
120 IF J1+J2<>17 THEN 100
140 JS=INT(J1/18+J2/9+1)
```

With this little program, prior to the use of - CALL JOYST(JS,J,S) in your own program, the computer will respond to whichever Joystick you were using when you pressed the Fire Button!

TIPS FROM THE TIGERCUB

#45

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156 Collingwood Ave.
Columbus, OH 43213

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Over 130 original programs in Basic and Extended Basic, available on cassette or disk, now reduced to just $2.00 each, plus $1.50 per order for cassette or disk and PP&M. Cassette programs will not be available after my present stock of blanks is exhausted.
Descriptive catalogs, while they last, $1.00 which is deductable from your first order.

Tigercub Full Disk Collections, reduced to $10 postpaid. Each of these contains either 5 or 6 of my regular $2 catalog programs, and the remaining disk space has been filled with some of the best public domain programs of the same category. I am NOT selling public domain programs - they are a free bonus!
TIGERCUB'S BEST, PROGRAMMING TUTOR, PROGRAMMER'S UTILITIES, BRAIN GAMES, BRAIN TEASERS, BRAIN BUSTERS!, MANEUVERING GAMES, ACTION REFLEX AND CONCENTRATION, TWO-PLAYER GAMES, KID'S GAMES, MORE GAMES, WORD GAMES, ELEMENTARY MATH, MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL MATH, VOCABULARY AND READING, MUSICAL EDUCATION, KALEIDOSCOPES AND DISPLAYS
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NUTS & BOLTS NO. 2, another full disk of 108 utility subprograms in merge format, all new and fully compatible with the last, and with 10 pages of documentation and examples. Also $15 postpaid.

```
**********************************
* NUTS & BOLTS #3 is now         *
* ready, another full disk       *
* of 140 new merge-format        *
* utility subprograms, all       *
* compatible with the pre-       *
* vious. With 11 pages of        *
* documentation, $15 ppd.        *
**********************************
```

TIPS FROM THE TIGERCUB, a full disk containing the complete contents of this newsletter Nos. 1 through 14, 50 original programs and files, reduced to $10 ppd.
TIPS FROM THE TIGERCUB VOL. 2, another diskfull, complete contents of Nos. 15 through 24, over 60 files and programs, also just $10
TIPS FROM THE TIGERCUB VOL. 3, another 62 programs, tips and routines from Nos. 25 through 32, $10 postpaid.
TIPS FROM THE TIGERCUB VOL. 4, another 48 programs and files from issues 33 through 41, also $10 postpaid.

Here is a versatile printer utility which will accept all printer control codes, print in 1 to 5 columns with choice of column separation and margin width, allow alternate margins and pause at end of page to turn paper over, and will load and print a diskfull of files one after another. It is set up for the Gemini 10X and may require modification for other printers.

```
100 DIM M$(400),F$(50)
110 GOTO 150
120 K,ST,SET,S,P$,P,CL,DW$,S
S$,I$,D$,E$,NC,CW,TC,TA,TX,A
V,CS,S$,LT,A$,LSP,LP,RM,OK$,
QQ$,X,F$(),SL,F,IP,M$(),T$,F
LAG,J,PP,LT$
130 CALL CLEAR :: CALL KEY :
: CALL COLOR :: CALL SCREEN
:: CALL SOUND
140 !@P-
150 CALL CLEAR :: CALL KEY(3
,K,ST):: ON WARNING NEXT
160 FOR SET=0 TO 14 :: CALL
COLOR(SET,2,8):: NEXT SET ::
 CALL SCREEN(5)
170 DISPLAY AT(3,6):"TIGERCU
B PRINTALL": :TAB(7);"Copyri
ght 1987":TAB(6);"Tigercub S
oftware" !programmed by Jim
 Peterson
180 DISPLAY AT(12,1):"May be
 distributed without":"restr
iction providing that":"no p
rice or copying fee is":"cha
rged."
190 DISPLAY AT(18,7):"TURN P
RINTER ON!"
200 DISPLAY AT(20,8):"PRESS
ANY KEY" :: DISPLAY AT(20,8)
:"press any key" :: CALL KEY
(0,K,S):: IF S=0 THEN 200 EL
SE CALL CLEAR
210 DISPLAY AT(12,1):"PRINTE
R DESIGNATION?" :: ACCEPT AT
(14,1)BEEP:P$ :: IF POS(P$,"
.LF",1)=0 THEN P$=P$&".LF"
220 ON ERROR 230 :: OPEN #1:
P$,VARIABLE 255 :: ON ERROR
STOP :: PRINT #1:CHR$(27);"@
" :: CALL CLEAR :: GOTO 240
230 DISPLAY AT(20,1):"CANNOT
 OPEN PRINTER!" :: RETURN 21
0
240 DISPLAY AT(12,1):"PRINT
SIZE?": :" (1) PICA":" (2)
 ELITE":" (3) CONDENSED"
250 ACCEPT AT(12,13)VALIDATE
("123")SIZE(1):P :: PRINT #1
:CHR$(27);"B";CHR$(P);
260 !The values 80, 96 and 1
36 in the next line are the
maximum number of pica, elit
e and condensed characters p
er line on Gemini 10X
270 !Change as necessary for
 your printer!
280 CL=(P=1)*80+(P=2)*96+(P=
3)*136 :: CL=ABS(CL)
290 DISPLAY AT(12,1)ERASE AL
L:"DOUBLE-WIDTH? (Y/N) N" ::
 ACCEPT AT(12,21)SIZE(-1)VAL
IDATE("YN")BEEP:DW$ :: IF DW
$="Y" THEN PRINT #1:CHR$(27)
;"W";CHR$(1);:: CL=CL/2
300 DISPLAY AT(12,1)ERASE AL
L:"SUPERSCRIPT? (Y/N) N" ::
ACCEPT AT(12,20)SIZE(-1)VALI
DATE("YN")BEEP:SS$ :: IF SS$
="Y" THEN PRINT #1:CHR$(27);
"S";CHR$(0);
310 DISPLAY AT(12,1)ERASE AL
L:"ITALICS? (Y/N) N" :: ACCE
PT AT(12,16)VALIDATE("YN")SI
ZE(-1)BEEP:I$ :: IF I$="Y" T
HEN PRINT #1:CHR$(27);"4";
320 DISPLAY AT(12,1)ERASE AL
L:"DOUBLE-STRIKE? (Y/N) Y" :
: ACCEPT AT(12,22)VALIDATE("
YN")SIZE(-1)BEEP:D$ :: IF D$
="Y" THEN PRINT #1:CHR$(27);
"G";
330 IF P<>3 AND P<>4 THEN DI
SPLAY AT(12,1):"EMPHASIZED?
(Y/N) Y" :: ACCEPT AT(12,19)
VALIDATE("YN")SIZE(-1)BEEP:E
$ :: IF E$="Y" THEN PRINT #1
:CHR$(27);"E";
340 DISPLAY AT(12,1)ERASE AL
L:"NUMBER OF COLUMNS? (1-5)"
 :: ACCEPT AT(12,26)VALIDATE
("12345")SIZE(1)BEEP:NC
350 DISPLAY AT(12,1):"COLUMN
 WIDTH (NUMBER OF": :"CHARAC
TERS?" :: ACCEPT AT(14,13)VA
LIDATE(DIGIT)BEEP:CW
360 TC=NC*CW :: TA=CL-TC ::
TX=TC+NC*2-2
370 IF TX<=CL THEN 390 :: DI
SPLAY AT(18,1):STR$(NC)&" co
lumns of "&STR$(CW)&" charac
ters":"plus 2-column spacing
 equals"
380 DISPLAY AT(20,1):STR$(TC
)&" characters; maximum":"av
ailable in print size":"sele
cted is "&STR$(CL)&".":"****
Please reselect****" :: GOTO
 240
390 IF NC=1 THEN 410 :: AV=I
NT(TA/(NC-1)):: DISPLAY AT(1
2,1)ERASE ALL:"COLUMN SEPARA
TION?":"MINIMUM 2":"MAXIMUM
"&STR$(AV)&" AVAILABLE ":"2"
400 ACCEPT AT(15,1)VALIDATE(
```

```
DIGIT)SIZE(-2)BEEP:CS :: IF
CS<2 OR CS>AV THEN 400 ELSE
S$=RPT$(" ",CS)
410 TA=TA-CS$(NC-1):: IF TA<
2 THEN 450
420 DISPLAY AT(12,1)ERASE AL
L:"LEFT MARGIN WIDTH?": :"MA
XIMUM "&STR$(TA)&" AVAILABLE
" :: ACCEPT AT(12,20)VALIDAT
E(DIGIT)BEEP:LT :: IF LT>TA
THEN 420
430 DISPLAY AT(12,1):"ALTERN
ATING LEFT/RIGHT": :"MARGIN?
 (for pages to be":"later re
produced on both":"sides) (Y
/N) N"
440 ACCEPT AT(1:,14)VALIDATE
("YN")SIZE(-1):A$
450 LSP=12 :: DISPLAY AT(10,
1):" ":" ":"LINES PER PAGE?
60":" ":" ":" ":" " :: ACCEP
T AT(12,17)VALIDATE(DIGIT)SI
ZE(-3):LP :: IF LP<70 THEN 4
90
460 DISPLAY AT(12,1):"LINE S
PACING - 72 INCH" :: DISPLAY
 AT(11,16):"__" :: ACCEPT AT
(10,16)VALIDATE(DIGIT)BEEP:L
SP
470 IF LP/(INT(72/LSP))>11.5
 THEN DISPLAY AT(20,1):"WON'
T FIT!" :: GOTO 450
480 PRINT #1:CHR$(27);"A";CH
R$(LSP);
490 RM=TA-LT
500 DISPLAY AT(12,1)ERASE AL
L:STR$(NC)&" columns of":STR
$(CW)&"-character width":"le
ft margin of "&STR$(LT)&" sp
aces"
510 DISPLAY AT(15,1):STR$(LP
)&" lines per page":"with "&
STR$(LSP)&"/72 line spacing"
520 DISPLAY AT(17,1):STR$(CS
)&" spaces between columns":
"right margin of "&STR$(RM)&
" spaces": :"OK? (Y/N) Y"
530 ACCEPT AT(20,11)VALIDATE
("YN")SIZE(-1)BEEP:OK$ :: IF
 OK$="N" THEN 240
540 DISPLAY AT(12,1)ERASE AL
L:"PAUSE AT END OF PAGE? N"
:: ACCEPT AT(12,23)VALIDATE(
"YN")SIZE(-1):QQ$
550 DISPLAY AT(1,1)ERASE ALL
:"INPUT FILENAMES TO BE":"PR
INTED.":"PRESS ENTER WHEN DO
NE"
560 X=X+1 :: DISPLAY AT(X+3,
1):"FILENAME? DSK" :: ACCEPT
 AT(X+3,14)SIZE(-12)BEEP:F$(
X)
570 IF F$(X)="" THEN X=X-1 :
: GOTO 600 ELSE F$(X)="DSK"&
F$(X)
580 ON ERROR 590 :: OPEN #2:
F$(X):: CLOSE #2 :: GOTO 560
590 ON ERROR STOP :: CALL SO
UND(1000,110,0,-4,0):: DISPL
AY AT(20,1):"CANNOT OPEN "&F
$(X):: X=X-1 :: RETURN 560
600 SL=1
610 F=F+1 :: IF F>X THEN 700
 :: ON ERROR 620 :: OPEN #2:
F$(F),INPUT :: DISPLAY AT(22
,1):"READING ";F$(F):: ON ER
ROR STOP :: GOTO 630
620 CALL SOUND(1000,110,0,-4
,0):: DISPLAY AT(20,1):"COUL
D NOT OPEN "&F$(F):: STOP
630 FOR IP=SL TO LP$NC :: LI
NPUT #2:M$(IP):: IF LEN(M$(I
P))=0 THEN 670 :: IF NC>1 AN
D POS(M$(IP),CHR$(13),1)<>0
THEN M$(IP)=SEG$(M$(IP),1,LE
N(M$(IP))-1)
640 IF ASC(M$(IP))>126 OR AS
C(M$(IP))<32 THEN IP=IP-1 ::
 GOTO 680
650 IF LEN(M$(IP))<=CW THEN
670 :: T$=SEG$(M$(IP),1,CW):
: CALL SOUND(1000,110,0,-4,0
):: DISPLAY AT(12,1):M$(IP);
" OVER";CW;"CHARACTERS":"TRU
NCATED TO ";T$:"OK?"
660 CALL KEY(3,K,S):: IF S=0
 THEN 660 ELSE IF K<>89 THEN
 STOP ELSE M$(IP)=T$
670 M$(IP)=M$(IP)&RPT$(" ",C
W-LEN(M$(IP)))
680 IF EOF(2)=1 THEN CLOSE #
2 :: SL=IP+1 :: GOTO 610
690 NEXT IP :: IF EOF(2)=1 T
HEN CLOSE #2 :: GOTO 720 ELS
E GOTO 720
700 ON ERROR 710 :: FLAG=1 :
: FOR J=IP+1 TO NC$LP :: M$(
J)="" :: NEXT J :: GOTO 720
710 STOP
720 PP=PP+1 :: IF PP/2=INT(P
P/2)AND A$="Y" THEN LT$=RPT$
(" ",RM)ELSE LT$=RPT$(" ",LT
)
730 FOR J=1 TO LP :: ON NC G
OSUB 750,760,770,780,790 ::
NEXT J :: PRINT #1:CHR$(12):
: SL=1 :: IF F>X THEN STOP E
LSE IF QQ$="N" THEN 630
740 DISPLAY AT(24,1)BEEP:"PR
ESS ANY KEY TO CONTINUE" ::
CALL KEY(0,K,S):: IF S=0 THE
N 740 ELSE DISPLAY AT(24,1):
"" :: GOTO 630
750 PRINT #1:LT$&M$(J)&CHR$(
10):: RETURN
760 PRINT #1:LT$&M$(J)&S$&M$
(J+LP)&CHR$(10):: RETURN
770 PRINT #1:LT$&M$(J)&S$&M$
(J+LP)&S$&M$(J+LP$2)&CHR$(10
):: RETURN
780 PRINT #1:LT$&M$(J)&S$&M$
(J+LP)&S$&M$(J+LP$2)&S$&M$(J
+LP$3)&CHR$(10):: RETURN
790 PRINT #1:LT$&M$(J)&S$&M$
(J+LP)&S$&M$(J+LP$2)&S$&M$(J
+LP$3)&S$&M$(J+LP$4)&CHR$(10
):: RETURN
```

This is an improved version of the math program in Tips #36.

```
100 CALL CLEAR :: RANDOMIZE
110 B=INT(5*RND+2):: IF B=B2
 THEN 110 ELSE B2=B
120 F=INT(5*RND+2):: IF F=F2
 THEN 120 ELSE F2=F
130 D=INT(5*RND+2):: IF D=D2
 THEN 130 ELSE D2=D
140 X=F$B$D
150 BB=INT(5*RND+2):: IF BB=
BB2 OR BB=B THEN 150 ELSE BB
2=BB
160 DD=INT(5*RND+2):: IF DD=
DD2 OR DD=D THEN 160 ELSE DD
2=DD
170 F=F$BB$DD
180 DISPLAY AT(3,1)ERASE ALL
:"IF";B;"BOYS CAN CATCH";X;"
FROGS IN";D;"DAYS,"
190 DISPLAY AT(6,1):"HOW MAN
Y FROGS CAN";BB;"BOYS":"CATC
H IN";DD;"DAYS?"
210 ACCEPT AT(7,19):Q
220 IF Q=F THEN DISPLAY AT(9
,1):"THAT'S RIGHT!" :: GOTO
110
230 DISPLAY AT(9,1):"NO, THA
T'S WRONG."
240 DISPLAY AT(11,1):"IF";B;
"BOYS CAN CATCH";X;"FROGS IN
";D;"DAYS"
250 DISPLAY AT(13,1):"THEN O
NE BOY CAN CATCH";X/B;"FROGS
 IN";D;"DAYS"
260 DISPLAY AT(15,1):"AND ON
E BOY CAN CATCH";X/B/D;"FROG
S IN ONE DAY."
270 DISPLAY AT(17,1):"SO, IF
 ONE BOY CAN CATCH";X/B/D;"F
ROGS IN ONE DAY,"
280 DISPLAY AT(19,1):"THEN";
BB;"BOYS CAN CATCH";X/B/D$BB
;"FROGS IN ONE DAY"
290 DISPLAY AT(21,1):"AND";B
B;"BOYS CAN CATCH";X/B/D$BB$
DD;"FROGS IN";DD;"DAYS."
300 DISPLAY AT(24,1):"PRESS
ANY KEY" :: CALL KEY(0,K,S):
: IF S=0 THEN 300 ELSE 110
```

Here's an idea for an unusual title screen -

```
100 CALL CLEAR :: FOR SET=1
TO 8 :: CALL COLOR(SET,1,1):
: NEXT SET :: CALL CHAR(100,
"0",101,"0")
110 X$(0)="4043241818244202"
 :: X$(1)="4021261818648402"
 :: X$(2)="2020131C38CB0404"
 :: X$(3)="1010101FF8080808"
 :: X$(4)="081010907E111020"
120 X$(5)="080808F81F101010"
 :: X$(6)="0404C8381C132020"
 :: X$(7)="0284641818262140"
130 A$=RPT$(CHR$(100)&CHR$(1
01),13):: FOR R=1 TO 24 :: C
=C+1+(C=2)*2 :: DISPLAY AT(R
,C):A$ :: NEXT R
140 CALL VCHAR(1,29,1,168)
150 CALL SCREEN(2):: CALL CO
LOR(9,5,16):: FOR S=1 TO 8 :
: CALL COLOR(S,16,2):: NEXT
S
160 DISPLAY AT(5,5):" TIGERC
UB SOFTWARE ";:: DISPLAY AT(
8,6):" SQUIRMY SCREEN ";
170 FOR J=0 TO 7 :: CALL CHA
R(100,X$(J)):: CALL CHAR(101
,X$(7-J)):: NEXT J
180 CALL KEY(0,K,S):: IF S=0
 THEN 170
```

MEMORY FULL

Jim Peterson

T. I. WRITER

(PART 3)

BY STAN KATZMAN

(A series of articles to be presented in the Spirit of 99 Newsletter in the months to come. Permission to publish has been granted by John Willforth, Editor of the West Penn 99er's Club.)

Up to now we have created a file and have made corrections of any errors produced. The next thing we have to do is save the file to disk so we can use it in the future if we so desire. (Later, when we get into the Text Formatter, the document must be on a disk.)

To save a document to a disk do the following: (I am assuming only one disk drive.) 1) Get T.I. Writer Editor, 2) remove the program disk, 3) insert a formatted disk for your document, 4) compose your document. Now we will save your document and here is how.

At the end of your document, go to the Command Mode (FCTN 9) now type F <ENTER> for files. You will now see a mun s s menu of "LoadF, PrintF, DeleteF, Purge or ShowDirectory". Now type SF <ENTER> and you will now see "SAVE FILE, enter filename:" at this point for a one disk drive system type DSK1.filename <ENTER>. For "filename" type anything you want to call your document. Your document will now be saved to the disk. When the "saving" process is finished you are returned back to the Edit mode in your document. You can now add or change your document and when you go back to the "SAVE FILE, enter filename:" section you will see the last entered filename and all you have to do is press <ENTER> and your entire file will be saved under that name.

If you want a different file name you can change it, if you so desire.

We can also only save part of a file, if we so desire. This is done in the following way. At the "SAVE FILE, enter filename:" enter the starting line number, a space, the stop line number, a space and then DSK1.filename. The starting and stop line numbers are obtained from those numbers you see on the left hand side of your screen. For example, you could enter 32 45 DSK1.LETTER and you will only save the material staring at line 32 and ending at line 45 to the disk.

By the way, you can "get rid" of the line numbers on the left by pressing FCTN (0 zero). To get the line numbers back press FCTN (0) again. This is called "toggling". We can now save documents to disk (very important). More next time.

PRODUCT ANNOUNCEMENT
1987

The 130 programs in the Tigercub Software catalog have been reduced to $1.00 each, plus $1.50 per order (not per program) for the cost of cassette or diskette and mailing. Minimum order is $10. Cassette orders will only be filled until stocks of blank cassettes are used up.

The 18 Full Disk Collections have been reduced to $5 each, postpaid, minimum order $10.

The four tips from the Tigercub disks are still available at $10 each, and the three Nuts & Bolts disks at $15 each, postpaid.

Tigercub has also prepared three "Care" disks full of text files, mostly consisting of tips and lessons on programming. These are intended primarily for free distribution to user group newsletter editors, in exchange for their newsletters, but they are available to anyone else for $5 per disk, postpaid.

Tigercub is attempting to maintain a current and accurate address/phone listing of TI user groups, based on return addresses from newsletters, listings in Computer Shopper, and other current sources. This listing may be downloaded from the Central Ohio 99'ers TIBBS BBS, (614) 263-3412, or may be obtained on disk from Tigercub for $1.50.

""N E W S""
FROM THE CONNI LIBRARY

LAST MONTH WAS A GOOD ONE ALL THE WAY AROUND. WITH THE CHICAGO FAIR, AND A GOOD MEETING, WHAT ELSE COULD YOU ASK FOR. WELL WOULD YOU BELIEVE WE ALSO ADDED 21 DISKS TO THE DISK LIBRARY. THATS RIGHT, 21 NEW DISKS, AND THAT'S NOT ALL. WE HAVE ALSO STARTED A SUBSET TO THE DISK LIBRARY. IT IS A COLLECTION OF DOWNLOADS FROM GENIE. THE GENIE DOWNLOADS ARE AT THE PRESENT TIME IN DSDD FORMAT, BUT WILL BE CHANGED TO SSSD BEFORE THE NEXT MEETING. THEY WILL BE KEPT BY NUMBER INSTEAD OF NAME. THIS WAY THEY ARE THE SAME AS LISTED ON GENIE, AND OTHER BBS'S AROUND TOWN. WE WILL HAVE A SEPERATE LIST OF THE GENIE FILES AND A DISCRIPTION OF WHAT THEY ARE AND THEIR NAMES. THIS WAY YOU WILL NOT HAVE TO PAY TO DOWN LOAD THEM AGAIN IF WE HAVE THEM.
THIS BRINGS UP POINT 2.
IF YOU USE GENIE AND HAVE FILES THAT YOU HAVE DOWNLOADED, PLEASE SHARE WITH THE LIBRARY AND OTHERS. GIVE US A DISK WITH THE FILES AS DOWNLOADED, (READ PACKED IF THEY WERE THAT WAY) AND WITH A D/V-80 FILE DESCRIBING THEM, SO WE CAN ADD THEM TO THE COLLECTION. THIS WILL SAVE EVERYONE AS THE COLLECTION GROWS.

NOW FOR THE LIST OF NEW DISKS WE HAVE ADDED TO THE LIBRARY.
ROMSTEDT_A
ROMSTEDT_B THESE ARE SSSD FROM KARL ROMSTEDT. THEY ARE THE OCTOBER 1987 VERSION FROM HIM. CONTAINS MANY PRINTER, UITLITIES, AND KIDS PROGRAMS. A GREAT COLLECTION.

XMAS84 A FAIRWARE CHRISTMAS MUSIC DISK IN SSSD VERSION FROM PAUL SCHEIDEMANTLE AND MIKE SALLEY. A GOOD COLLECTION OF XMAS MUSIC.

XMAS85 A SECOND FAIRWARE CHRISTMAS MUSIC DISK IN SSSD VERSION FROM PAUL SCHEIDEMANTLE AND MIKE SALLEY.

186 (WILL BE NAMED LIMA-10) THIS IS A FREE DISK FROM THE LIMA (OH) USERS GROUP. IT CONTAINS CHECKBOOK WRITER V4.4 WITH DOCS. ALSO DIM (DISK INFORMATION MANAGER) AND THE DOCS. THIS LOADS FROM THE E/A CART OPT#5. WILL NOT LOAD FROM GK BECAUSE E/A IS NOT AT <6000 OR FROM FUN-L. THERE IS A FILE THAT TELLS HOW TO CHANGE IT TO LOAD FROM FUN-L ON THE DISK.

FT-1/16GP THIS IS THE LATEST VERSION OF PAUL CHARLTON'S FAST TERM. THE BEST RATED ALL AROUND TERM PROGRAM FOR THE TI99/4A. AND IT'S FAIRWARE.

DM3_5/S THIS IS THE SOURCE CODE FOR DM1000 VERSION 3.5. IF YOU WANT TO SEE WHAT MAKES DM1000 WORK AND LEARN SOMETHING ABOUT MACHINE LANGUAGE AT THE SAME TIME, HERE'S YOUR CHANCE.

TEXLOADER THIS IS FROM PARAGON COMPUTING ON A SSSD DISK AND IS FAIRWARE. IF YOU SEND THEM $5.00, THEY WILL PUT YOU ON THERE LIST FOR FUTURE PROGRAMS LIKE A FLIGHT SIMULATOR AND A TRUE DOS. THIS PROGRAM IS A MACHINE LANGUAGE ROUTINE THAT READS A TEXT FILE (LIKE FROM TI-WRITER). IT LOADS EACH LINE AND RUNS IT LIKE AN X/B PROGRAM. THE DOC'S ARE ALSO ON THE DISK.

NOW WE HAVE THREE (3) DISKS FROM THE CHANNEL 99'S. THESE ARE DSSD AND ARE CALLED THE BEST OF 99. THESE ARE FROM

THEIR DISK OF THE MONTH COLLECTIONS. ALSO WE HAVE THE FOLLOWING FROM THEM.

3-8/AUG85
4-2/NOV85
5-2/NOV86
5-4/JAN87
5-6/MAR87
5-7/APR87
5-9/JUN87
5-10/JUL87
5-11/AUG87
5-12/SEP87
6-11/OCT87

THESE ARE THEIR DISK OF THE MONTH FOR THE MONTH OF THE NAME. WE WILL BE ADDING THE REST OF THEIR COLLECTION SOON.

IN NEXT MONTHS D.O.M. WE WILL HAVE TWO FILES THAT WILL FIX THE PROBLEM OF THE PRINTER NAME BEING RS232 IN LAST MONTH'S FREE DISK OF THE FUN-L-WRITER. LOOK FOR THEM AND PLAN NOW TO ORDER YOUR DISKS FROM THE LIBRARY.

HAVE FUN CHUCK

THE TIGERCUB NUTS & BOLTS DISKS

What are they? The Nuts & Bolts disks are collections of 100 or more subprograms in merge format, ready to merge into your own programs.

And what does that mean? Well, TI-99/4A Extended Basic allows the use of user-written subprograms. And what are subprograms? You know them well. CALL COLOR, CALL SOUND, CALL HCHAR - those are all subprograms which are built into the Basic language. You can write your own subprograms, to do anything that Extended Basic is capable of, and tack them onto the end of your program to be CALLed whenever you need them.

To put it in another way, using a subprogram is almost like running one program from another - except that you can access it much faster, you can pass along any values that you want to, and you can return to where you left the first program.

Also, with a disk drive you can save programs in MERGE format and then MERGE them into a program in memory. Providing that the line numbers are different, the program which you MERGE in will be added to the existing program.

The variables used in a subprogram are entirely separate from those used in the main program, therefore libraries of utility subprograms can be developed in MERGE format, and MERGEd into any program without conflict.

The Nuts & Bolts disks are libraries of such subprograms. The first disk contains 100 such subprograms, plus a tutorial on using them. Disk No.2 contains 108, and No.3 contains 140 of them in 114 files. Nothing like them has ever been offered by anyone else for the TI-99/4A computer.

These 348 subprograms have been consecutively line-numbered with high line numbers so that they will not overwrite your program line numbers, and so that any number of them may be MERGEd into a program without overwriting each other.

Advanced programming techniques have been used to make these routines as compact as possible, averaging hardly more than 3 sectors each, so that a hundred or more could be crammed onto a disk and so that they would add very little to the length of a program. If you are learning to program, you might learn a great deal by studying these subprograms.

Each disk is accompanied by several pages of printed documenation, explaining the use of each subprogram and giving a short demo routine which you can key in, run, and experiment with.

Many of these subprograms can be used by persons with almost no programming knowledge, to modify existing programs. For instance, a program written in Basic, which crashes with BAD VALUE when run in XBasic, will run with a simple CALL BXB, and CALL KILLQUIT will disable the infernal QUIT key. Many different screen character styles are available, as well as colorful wipes to replace CALL CLEAR.

However, it is the programmer who will find these disks truly invaluable. Even if you have the skill and ingenuity to develop these routines for yourself, wouldn't you rather just pay fifteen cents apiece for them?

The three Nuts & Bolts disks are available for $15 each, postpaid, from Tigercub Software, 156 Collingwood Ave., Columbus OH 43213.

..IMPACT-99..
T.I. Happenings

by Jack Sughrue
Box 459
E Douglas MA 01516

GOLDEN GOODIE

There is a *Golden Goodie* I would like to share with other wordprocessor buffs out there. It is called Utility Programs. Written by Tom Freeman from his LA newsletter columns, this disk contains some incredibly useful programs (and some less than useful [for me] but interesting nonetheless programs). The 32-page booklet (printed on gold-colored paper) is fairly easy to follow.

My primary interest in purchasing this package ($8 from LA and worth it) was to get a working copy of the Quad Column program. I have typed in copies from Tom's column, but I could never get the thing to work correctly. Then Barry Traver had it in Genial TRAVelER, the great diskazine (which at $35 for six FULL issues is still one of the best TI buys around), but I could not get that to work on my Gemini 10X, either.

Ah, well.

Then I talked to Tom at the April Faire in Waltham and bought the updated pack.

In addition to the Quad Column, which I'll discuss in a moment, the package contains the following: Variable Column Lister, Print Sideways, Print Sideways - ASL, Call Load to ASL, ASL to Call Load, Sector Checker, XBasic Checksums, Keyboard Map, XBasic Tokens. That's a pretty hefty selection on that disk.

But now the Quad Column. I wanted to be able to print out in two neat, right-justified columns all of the articles in our newsletter and the items I write for other newsletters (such as this column). But I also wanted to be able to keep my automatic IFfing (see last month's *IMPACT-99*) and ALL the TransLiteration codes I had developed into a code file. At the same time I wanted to keep the screen TABbed at L/1, I/4, R/38 while I typed. Then, of course, I wanted a very easy way to convert all this wishful thinking into a nice two-column format.

Quad Column does all these things. I created a tiny template (which I SAVEd on my *FUNNELWEB* and on my *UTILITY PROGRAMS* disks).

This file has the TABs set as above, has >.IF DSK1.C1 on Line 0001; and >.LM0;RM56;FI;AD;IN+5;PL300 (this latter as suggested by Tom in the manual). The C1 file from last month's column just opens up the TL key for underlining , *italics* , and the like.

Now I'm ready to go. I can see all my text on the screen clearly within the frame of the monitor. I can put all the coding I want into it. I can type up to 170 lines this way to guarantee a full-page text in double *columns*.

Then I SAVE my file: DSK2.FILE1. Next I LOAD the FORMATter, as I would to print out the file. Where it says "PIO" I type DSK2.FILE2. I now go back to EDITor and DELETE all those little 1f (line feed marks) and SAVE by SF or PF: DSK2.FILE3 (but FILE2 would also be okay, as you may not have use of it again - however, I play it safe). LOAD *Quad Column* in DSK1 and merely answer the questions. Be sure your printer is turned on.

I found for the Gemini prints best for 24/216 line spacing and 59 text lines. Everything else I use as a default.

It's one of those programs every newsletter editor dreams of. Though I've used other columnizers, this is the one for me. One can also choose 3 or 4 columns with the same ease.

To get your package, send $9 (includes shipping) to LA 99ers Computer Group, Marketplace, P.O. Box 3547, Gardena, CA, 90247-7247. Ask for Utilities Disk/Docs.

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PRINTIT

Probably the most exciting graphic/text FAIRWARE item to come out is Rodger Merritt's *PRINTIT* . It is on a par with *CSGD* and *FONTWRITER* , though it is better as a companion WITH the other two than it is as competition for the other two. In addition to having over 200 graphics that can be viewed, like PRINT SHOP, as a screen slide show (with magnification and speed YOU control!), these graphics can be printed in the middle of your sentences (see below) or anywhere else by using a version of TI Writer. I use *FUNNELWEB* , for example. This program will let you write in beautiful script through your TIW with graphics through a file called BIG_TYPE. It will also let these graphics be expanded to various sizes (including the full 8-inch size for use with the excellent banner program included). *PRINTIT* also includes the tightest professional-looking label-printing cataloguer I've ever used and a program to make your own graph paper. At the end of this column are samples of the script type and graph paper and label catalog (as well as two small sizes of a horse and house all done with *PRINTIT* . Let's face it, with over 200 graphics you have a big choice. You can print a sailboat or Saturn or a snowflake or a spade (and club and heart and diamond) or a spaceship or a spider or the sun. You can even link graphics. There are five separate TRAIN graphics, for example, that can be linked together to *make an engine and cars and caboose all across your page.* Imagine the kind of desk-top publishing activities you can get into with *PRINTIT* !

This is a remarkable program that takes two full flippies.

To order this FAIRWARE item send the author $15 specifying SSSD or DSDD to Rodger Merritt, 1949 Evergreen Ave., Fullerton, CA, 92635 (or call 714-990-4577).

If you have a dot-matrix printer (particularly Gemini-compatible) you may disappear into the confines of your computer for the next few months as you explore *PRINTIT* . A whole new generation of computer widows may result.

~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~

FONTWRITER II

I hope this is not vaporware. Peter Hoddie, the

impossible to get ahold of young genius who is responsible for the excellent MYWORD word processor built into the GENEVE, as well as PRESCAN IT, XB-BUG, and numerous other pieces of software and textware, has announced the last stages of this program.

Way back in January (1987), Peter said II would be out in a couple weeks. Then Lou Phillips really wanted his GENEVE up and running and out, so Peter's attention was needed elsewhere. He was also starting up a company with Barry Traver and Corson Hyman called Genial Computerware. He was also completing an eprom for a Horizon update. He was also writing some articles for MICROpendium. He was also setting up the N.E. TI FAIRE. Among other things. (Is it true he is ALSO a full-time student?)

At the April Faire he said II would be "finished on Wednesday."

I've seen lots of ads for it, and there has been lots of speculation. But in a column in LA Topics, Peter said, "I can only say that I plan to start clean up work on it as soon as I finish this file, so about 2 weeks, assuming I get that gate array from Mitsubishi...". At least Peter has a sense of humor.

As an owner of *FONTWRITER I* , I can only assume II will be wonderful as I already is. This is a printer program that will make your head spin. I had to do a little finagling to get everything to work okay on my Gemini, but Peter said some of those text/graphics bugs have been worked out in II. I hope the manual for II is more clearly written and easier to follow. It is the only manual I've ever gotten with an Asgard product that I haven't been perfectly happy with. I eventually put it aside and played with the pull-down menus made so popular by Asgard with programs like Schedule Manager and others.

Rather than discuss I more fully and show examples from it, I think I'll hold off until II arrives (which it may have done by this printing). If you'd like further information contact Asgard Software, P.O. Box 10306, Rockville, MD, 20850, and ask for their catalog.

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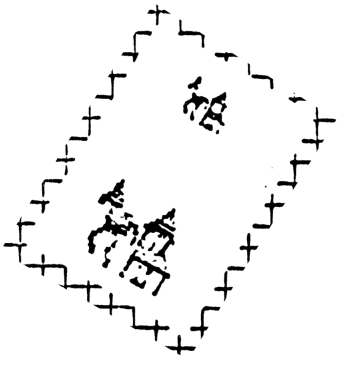
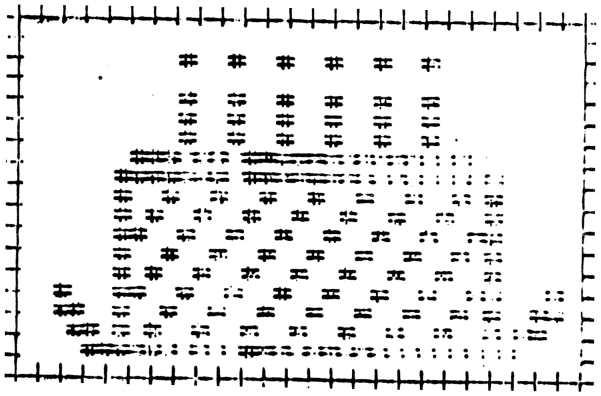
This is a test of the BIG_TYPE program. This will show the possible variations of printouts using the same text file and only changing the density and format.

The TI computer  is a transliteration and part of the Script file. It can only be changed by using CHAR_LDR. The dog  is a graphic character and the print code will be taken from the disk. To do this it must be put in brackets with the graphic mode turned on.




~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~

THE POEM BELOW WAS CONTRIBUTED TO THE WEST PENN 99'ER BY MR. SCOTT COLEMAN(President).

T'was the night before implementation and all through the house,
Not a program was working; not even a mouse.
The programmers all hung by their tubes in despair
In hopes that a miracle soon would be there.

The users were nestled all snug in their beds
while visions of inquiries danced in their heads.
When out of the COPE there arose such a clatter
that I sprang from my desk to see what was the matter.

And what to my wondering eyes should appear,
But a super programmer (with a six-pack of beer).
His resume glowed with experience so rare,
He turned out great code with a bit pusher's flair.

More rapid than eagles, his programs they came,
And he whistled and shouted and called them by name:
On Update! On Add! On Inquire! On Delete!
On Batch Jobs! On Closing! On Functions Complete!

His eyes were glazed over, fingers nimble and lean,
From weekends and nights spent in front of a screen.
A wink of his eye and a twist of his head,
Soon gave me to know that I had nothing to dread.

He spoke not a word, but went straight to his work,
Turning specs into code, then turned with a jerk;
And laying his finger upon the "enter" key,
The system came up and worked perfectly.

The updates updated; the deletes, they deleted;
The inquiries inquired, and closing completed.
He tested each whistle, and tested each bell.
With nary an ABEND, and all had gone well.

The system was finished, the tests were concluded.
The clients' last changes were even included!
But the client exclaimed with a snarl and a taunt,
"It's just what I asked for, but not what I want!"

Author Anonymous

OFF TO THE FAIRES

by Dick Beery

This article was intended to be a combination of my own reflections on the Chicago-Milwaukee Faire experiences and portions of an article written by Warren Agee. On reflection, I felt that Warren's article deserved to be printed in its entirety. It appears elsewhere in this issue, and because of its in-depth coverage of hardware and software exhibits, I have omitted my own and concentrated on other aspects of the Faires.

My reflections: On Saturday, November 7, fifteen members of C.O.N.N.I. or the Central Ohio 99/4A community in general converged on Triton College in suburban River Forest, Illinois, to attend the fifth annual T.I. Faire. That's a lot of people from a group this size, and hopefully even more people from this group/area will attend next year's fair. Arriving by RV were Chuck Grimes; Irwin Hott (C.O.N.N.I. president) and his "eyes" Tonka; (former member) Bob Harkless; Ken Marshall; Bud Wright and friend; and Fred Tietzel.

Arriving by car were: Jim Peterson, Everett Wade (Membership chairman);and the author. These three went on to Milwaukee on Sunday, November 8, to attend a similar fair there. Also arriving by car were Jean Hall (Newsletter Editor) and her husband Russ; Curt Borders and Jere Singleton; and one 4A user from Newark and another from New Philadelphia.

Really a great turnout!

The number of Faire attendees in general this year did not seem to be as large as those of the past two years; nevertheless, people apparently stayed longer, and the enjoyment seemed in no way diminished.

Probably the most interesting and enjoyable aspect of being there was that of having the opportunity of talking with program creators and vendors, and being able to ask questions and voice concerns. Just seeing and meeting the programmers was an experience that added to the enjoyment of the software we are using.

A "social mixer", held Friday evening prior to the opening of the Chicago Faire on Saturday, helped provide these opportunities in a relaxed social setting. In addition, a panel discussion featuring Faire speakers and others provided further opportunity for information gathering and questions.

Following the Saturday event was a dinner for a limited number of people including speakers and Faire workers.

At the Milwaukee Faire on Sunday, the setting was smaller, but the number of exhibitors and vendors only slightly less, or so it appeared. Lower ceilings and more limited space seemed to provide a more homey feeling for many. The emphasis at this gathering was more in the software area, both T.I. and third- party, and many attendees appeared to be local people interested in seeing and purchasing.

Speakers suffered somewhat from having to project their voices above the din of vendors' stalls immediately behind their audiences. Because the PA system reached all corners of the selling area, use of it was strongly discouraged, to the disadvantage of speakers and audience alike. We feel that this is an area that needs to be addressed in future Milwaukee Faires. Overall, however, our first visit to this other Faire was very enjoyable and exciting.

In conclusion, the trip seems well worth the effort and cost. Many of this year's attendees have already told me that they plan to attend next year also. I know I do. Maybe I'll see YOU there ?

FROM THE PRESIDENTS'
COMPUTER DESK
BY IRWIN HOTT

This article will be concerned with the types of disk files available on the TI. They are: DISPLAY VARIABLE, DISPLAY FIXED, INTERNAL VARIABLE, INTERNAL FIXED and PROGRAM.

We'll start by looking at programs. When you think of a program you probably think of a BASIC or EXTENDED BASIC one. There are several other types of programs. There are a few indicators you can use to help you decide whether the program on your disk is BASIC, E/A, GK ETC. Basic or EXTENDED BASIC programs may be anywhere from 2 to 52 or so sectors. After a point which is determined by how much memory is needed, EXTENDED BASIC programs are saved as INTERNAL VARIABLE 254. Those programs cannot be run from BASIC.

You may be able to save an INTERNAL VARIABLE 254 program from disk to cassette if it is close to the point where it would be saved as a PROGRAM.

You may also run into EXTENDED BASIC programs that are say 25 sectors long with just a few program lines. Those most likely contain embedded assembly files saved with ALSAVE or SYSTEX. Those will not run in BASIC. If you save those in MERGE format, you will lose the assembly files.

33 sector programs may be E/A option 5. If you try to run an E/A5 program in BASIC or EXTENDED BASIC you will get an error 50. Another indication of E/A5 is that the last character of the file name will be incremented by one ascii value as in TERM TERN TERO or MGR1 MGR2. In most cases E/A5 files will be 33 sectors in length except for the last one. There are some exceptions with E/A5 loaders however.

Files for the GRAMKRACKER follow a somewhat similar format except that they are 34 sectors in length. For the GK you may see file names such as: XB XB1 XB2 XB3 XB4 XB5 XB6 or FAST/G1 FAST/G2 or GRAM0 GRAM1 GRAM2. Some RLE pictures may also be in program I have seen 25 and 54 sector format pictures. Just a couple of other notes on programs. There will soon be a program in the C.O.N.N.I. library which is supposed to make it possible to transfer long programs from cassette to disk. Also from FUNNELWEB FARMS CASSETTE LOAD and CASSETTE TRANSFER make it possible for you to store/recover your E/A5 programs on cassette. This is great for people who have 32k and a cassette system but have not added disk.

Now let's take a look at RELATIVE files. They may be used on disk only. The two types of file access are RELATIVE and SEQUENTIAL.

Records in a RELATIVE (random) file may be accessed in any order. An example of a RELATIVE file is the disk directory. Try the following:

```
10 OPEN #1:"DSK1.",INPUT,INTERNAL, RELATIVE
20 INPUT A::INPUT #1,REC A:A$
30 PRINT A$::GOTO 20
```

Just put in a number in A from 0-127. 0 will give you the disk name. 1-127 will give you the filename in that record. If you get a null string you are beyond the end of the directory. I use a RELATIVE file on the SPIRIT OF #'99 TIBBS which contains the alphabetical user list. This makes it possible to search the list quickly for a name. RELATIVE files must have FIXED length records. This means that any extra space in the record is filled in by the computer. If you have a 70 character line in a FIXED 80 file the last 10 characters will not be available for use. RELATIVE files may be DISPLAY or INTERNAL.

Variable files (INTERNAL or DISPLAY) may only be accessed sequentially. DISPLAY VARIABLE 80 files are most likely text files. This article is being written in EXTENDED BASIC and stored as D/V 80 on disk. You may print D/V 80 files from TI-WRITER, (or equivalent) DM1000 or the E/A editor. The editor will strip out all control characters. You may need to use the TI-WRITER formatter for some files. If you OPEN #1:"DSK1.TEST" the file will default to D/V 80 in UPDATE mode. This means you may read or write to it. If you open it in INPUT mode you may only read from it. Interestingly, if you open the file in INPUT mode the default is D/V with no record length. I find this very useful if I need to read a variety of files with speech. One seeming hitch to this is with the Horizon Ram-disk. There the INPUT default is D/V 80. The OUTPUT (WRITE) default is D/V 80. You may also find D/V 80 files as RLE pictures, or pics which are intended to be printed directly on your printer. D/V 80 files may also be source code for assembly programs. Those may be assembled with the E/A cartridge.

One of the most interesting files is DISPLAY VARIABLE 163. This is normally used by the computer for MERGE format. If you try to read one of these files you will get some numbers and strings but mostly unprintable characters. The computer uses TOKENS to represent words such as CALL COLOR CLEAR ETC. Tokens are used to represent line numbers, quoted and unquoted strings and much more. If you see a D/V 163 file go into EXTENDED BASIC, type NEW, type MERGE DSKX.(FILENAME) and the file should be in memory after reading it from disk. If you wish to save it as a program, do so as if you had typed it in. DISPLAY FIXED 80 files may be assembly files. They may be loaded from E/A3 or from EXTENDED BASIC with a CALL LOAD. There is no way that I know of to tell the difference without trying to load the file. Note that some early versions of TE

II store files in DIF 80 in terminal mode. DISPLAY FIXED 128 files may be RLE pictures or ARCHIVED (packed) files. If you cannot tell by the name you may have to try to unpack the file with ARCHIVER. The usual indicator for an ARCHIVED file is /PAC or /ARC as the last part of the filename. This is not always followed however. With the advent of archiving programs that squeeze or compress the file this may become more confusing. Be sure to read any instructions, descriptions etc. that come with the file. This is just an overview of some of the types of files you might run into. You will find numerous exceptions to these guidelines.

If you have any questions, be sure to ask at the meeting.

C.O.N.N.I. BUSNESS MEETING
MARTIN JANIS SENIOR CITIZENS
NOVEMBER 14, 1987

Meeting opened 10:28 A.M. Meeting adjourned 11:08 A.M.

Meeting was called to order by President Irwin Hott, who proceeded with a motion to sell 250 tickets for the Horizon Ram Disk raffle. Motion carried unanimously.

John Cummings read the treasurer's report and the results of last months questionnaire.

Jean Hall brought up the problem of newsletter delivery dates and a discussion of a brunch for next months meeting.

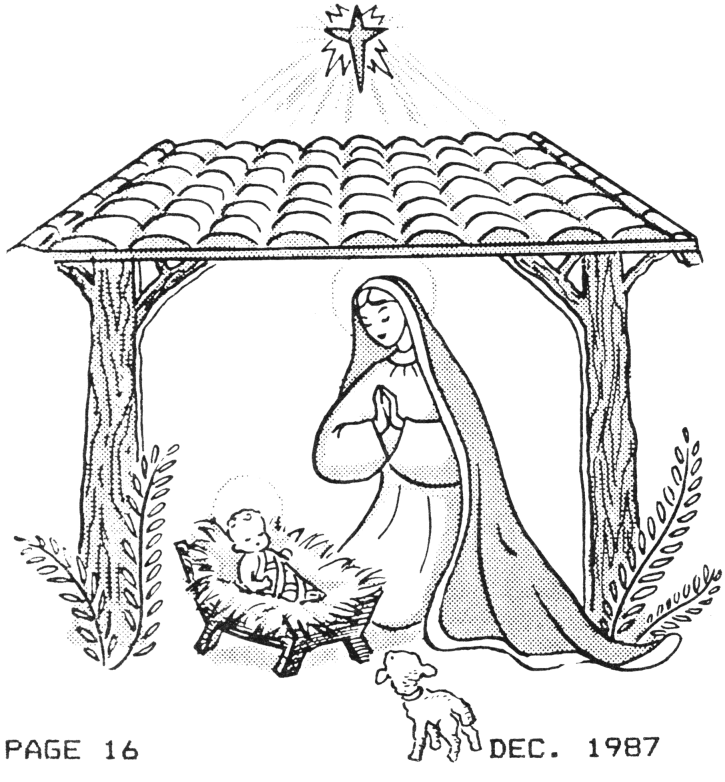
Irwin Hott explained the speech card features soon to be added to the club B.B.S.

Chuck Grimes passed out the new version of Funnel Writer and gave the updates of the club library.

Jim Peterson announced that recently copyright programs had been uploaded to a major B.B.S. and reminded us that this was sure to discourage programmers in the T.I. community. Also once again, his catalog of public domain is still available.

Meeting was adjourned and members who attended the Chicago Fair shared their experiences with the rest of the group.

Respectfully submitted
Jere Singleton, Secretary



HAPPY

BIRTHDAY

Jesus

Report on the Fifth Annual Chicago TI FAIRE Saturday, November 7, 1987
Written by Warren Agee [CIS: 70277,2063]

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I had the pleasure of attending the Fifth Annual Chicago TI FAIRE, one that is fast becoming the grand-daddy of national TI/Geneve gatherings. This was the third consecutive faire I have attended, and it gets better every year. A good number of people showed up, and although I don't have the exact attendance figures, the room seemed just as full as last year. The faire itself seemed very well-organized, with a "mixer" the evening before the show (which I did not attend) and a banquet for vendors, faire organizers, and other VIPs (which I did attend). What follows is 1) A report of the faire itself, highlighting new products; 2) A brief summary of all the great personages I had a chance to meet; 3) A brief description of the banquet afterwards.

Unfortunately, there were too many people to meet and not enough time to spend sufficient time at every single booth at the show, but I think I did manage to see most of the 'new exciting' products at this year's gathering.

GENIAL COMPUTERWARE: this booth, headed by the ever-popular luminary J. Peter Hoddie, was very busy all day long, and for good reason: they released PC-Transfer by Mike Dodd, which facilitates the transfer of data between the 99/4A or Geneve and an MS-DOS system. It can format an IBM 360K disk with a TI drive, and transfer files between the two systems, both ways. CorComp has been selling a similar product for quite some time, but it's on a cartridge and costs twice as much as PC-Transfer, which sells for $25. Also released was Remind Me! by John Johnson, which is a very slick calendar program that helps manage a monthly schedule. Price: $15. Lastly, they had a new program called Grahics Expander (by JPH) which takes a TI Artist or CSGD font and changes its size. Written entirely in assembly, it allows you to stretch a font horizontally and vertically, and you can save the result as EITHER a TI ARTIST or CSGD font. That means you can easily convert fonts to either format! Again, very slick, and it sells for $10. Peter also gave a presentation at 3:00pm during the show, at which he gave a brief autobiography of himself and demonstrated his company's new software. Startling revelation: the J in his name stands for James. IMPORTANT!! Due to his untimely illness, Barry Traver, the other half of Genial Computerware, was unable to attend this year's faire, and he was sorely missed. Everyone say a prayer for Barry that he return to us soon and in good health.

RYTE DATA: I only was able to get a brief demonstration from this company, but I thought it appropriate to mention Ryte Data's new 99AT Expansion System for both the /4A and Geneve. It looks like an IBM PC on the outside, but the innards have been rearranged to hold a large power supply, up to four half-height drives (including a hard drive), and five slots for standard TI size cards made by TI, Myarc, CorComp, Horizon, Foundation, Mechatronic, etc. Now that the Myarc Geneve computer is available, we need a new expansion box, and here we have one. Price: $155 with 135 watt power supply and built-in system interface. Just plug in your Geneve and assorted cards, some drives, and you're all set. $165 for the above with 99/4A interface cable set installed.

McCann Software: I give this the 'Most Interesting Announced Product' award of the show. I also hope that they change their name, cuz the new product isn't software, it's hardware! The 'Avanti 99' is a multiprocessor Board for the TI/99/4A powered by the NC 4016 Forth Engine. Details that I have were a bit sketchy, but this is what the handout says, in part: The Avanti 99 is fully programmable. Each card has an 8K battery-backed DSR RAM fully accessible to the programmer. The NC4016 Forth Engine on each card has 48K of its own high-speed static ram, and each card has the CM-FORTH operating system in ROM. Several of these cards can be installed and used for different operations in the PEB at the same time. One card is fast - they say it runs at 5 MIPS, which stands for 5 Million Instructions Per Second. Apparently, as you add more cards, you can have a total of 25-30 MIPS of computing power. For some reason that sounds more like a marketing maneuver than fact. I will defer to the experts on that matter. Suggested retail price is $500, available before January 1. (which year? the circular did not say. <grin>)

DIJIT Sytems had their AVPC card running Multiplan in 80 columns. Asgard was there with their full line of software, and a smiling Chris Bobbitt wearing an Asgard tee-shirt. Jim Horn manned the DOS/Compuserve TIFORUM booth while the entire TIFORUM message base scrolled by continously on his transportable Zenith computer (I think), complete with an

inoperative shift key. 'Twas a great pleasure to see Terrie Masters again at the LA 99ers booth, and to have the honor to meet Tom Freeman for the first time. Richard Mitchell had his customary position on the floor in the Bytemaster Booth showing his String Master utility for programmers and various issues of the Smart Programmer and Super 99 Monthly. Jack Riley was holding up the fort at the Myarc booth while being bombarded with questions about everything from "where is the HDCC" to "why did you wear a polkadotted tie". Where _is_ the HDCC? Real Soon Now. Lou Phillips, who was scheduled to speak, was conspicously absent at the show. This was a shame, since people asked Jack several technical questions during his presentation that he could not answer. Peter Hoddie helped Jack out at the tail end of the presentation by talking about My-Word (and My-Word 2) and demonstrating MY-ART. Regarding MY-Word 2, Peter says in general he plans to make MY-WORD function more like a main-stream word processor. That means <insert> continously inserts as you type, <backspace> deletes as you backspace, etc. A sigificant improvement will be macros, where you can define any key combination (including predefined ones) to do anything you want. He would basically like to see MY-Word completely user-definable. He did not specify a completion date, but estimates that perhaps it would be ready by mid- to late-winter. I met Mike Dodd, whom Peter describes as "scary, he so good." Only fifteen years of age, he does work for Myarc, writes commercial software (like PC TRANSFER), and authors a Geneve column for MICROpendium. Now if J. Peter Hoddie calls Mike Dodd scary, that scares me even more! Great talent, and a nice guy to boot. Lesse now..anyone else I missed? I missed Paul Charlton, but that was because he could not make it to the show. I finally got to meet Barb Wiederhold, owner of the Queen Anne Computer Shoppe in Seattle, Washington, a computer-evangelist extraordinare. I heard they had to PRY the microphone away from her at the Mixer held the night before. She was at it again during the show, when she spoke about the future of the TI and Geneve markets. Quite an enthusiastic lady who is genuinely excited about the Geneve 9640. Scott Darling, sysop of the TI Roundtable on GEnie, was gruff and coarse and rude as always, and it was great to see him too. That's it for the FACTS concerning the Chicago TI FAIRE. I'm sure I've missed something, but there was a lot to see, both in booths and people. Even though I go because I own a /4a, what brings me back year after year is the PEOPLE. At the banquet held after the show, I sat a table with Peter Hoddie, Mike Dodd, Corson Wyman, Todd Kaplan, Jim Horn, and some others (whose names do not ring a bell at the moment, sorry!!) I got this great sense of community which I seldom feel sitting in front of the screen typing away on CompuServe. All these people, whether they be programmers, marketing-types, vendors, or everyday hobbiest and users, flew or drove hundreds and thousands of miles to gather in one spot to talk techie and spend their wads. We even had two people from Italy and two from the Netherlands in attendance! What commitment (and lack of sanity, as peter might say) we all have! What friends we have made! What fun we have had! I'm already shining my shoes for the next faire...BRING ON 1988 AND THE NEXT SHOW! PS: Understandably, I forgot to mention that even though Myarc's Jack Riley spoke at a presentation, he didn't announce anything new. He did hint that some sort of IBM emulation in hardware would be coming sometime in the future.

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XMAS CLUES FOR XMAS PROBLEM ON PAGE 19 - ANSWERS IN JAN

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-ACROSS-

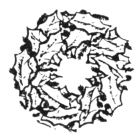
2. BARN
4. NEW STAR
6. LEGACY
8. ANADEMX
9. SAGACIOUS
10. MALE SHEEP
12. DROMEDARY
14. SHORT SONG
15. BELL
17. OPACA
19. YULETIDE
21. HESPER
22. NIGHT BEFORE

23. SHEPHERD'S STAFF
24. JEWEL
25. RIM
26. 3 MEN ON CAMELS
27. ACCLAIM
28. RELATIVE
30. DONKEY
31. BOVINE
32. RING, AS A BELL

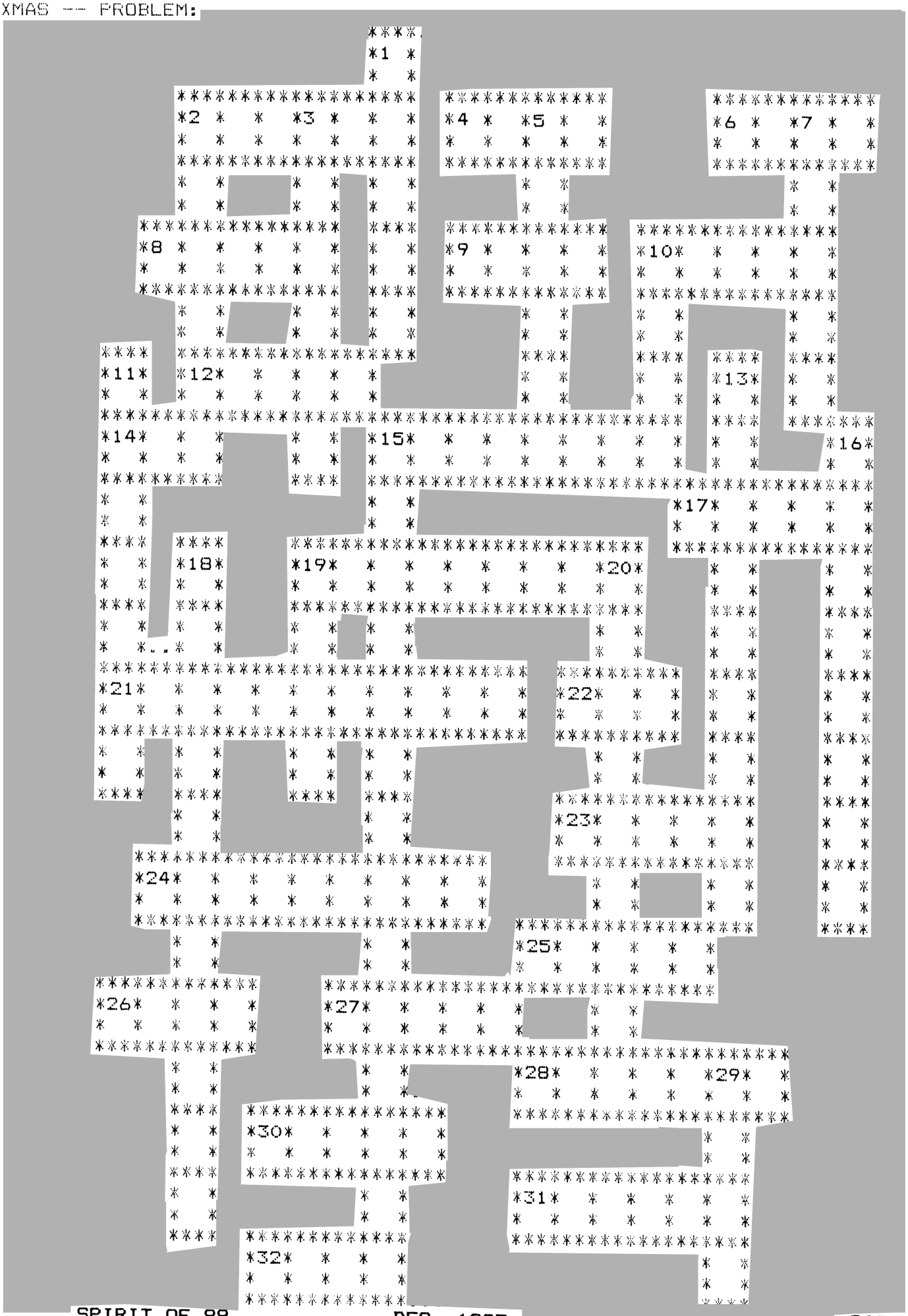
-DOWN-

1. SERENITY

2. EVERGREEN
3. MANAGER
5. JOY
7. HOLIDAY
10. EPINICION
11. TREK
13. BUNTING
15. NOEL
16. PSALTER
18. TEASEL
19. STRIPPED CANDY
20. KING
29. SHEEP KEEPER

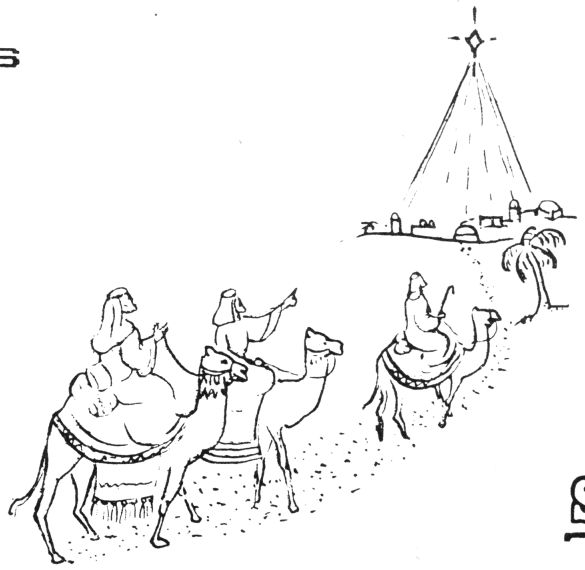


XMAS -- PROBLEM:

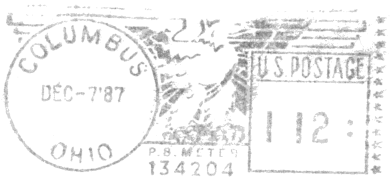


MEETING DATES FOR 1987—1988

12 DEC 1987
09 JAN 1988
13 FEB 1988
12 MAR 1988
09 APR 1988
14 MAY 1988
11 JUN 1988
09 JUL 1988
13 AUG 1988
10 SEP 1988
08 OCT 1988
12 NOV 1988



Spirit of 99



TIME SENSITIVE MATERIAL
POSTMASTER - PLEASE DELIVER PROMPTLY

TI*MES %STEPHEN SHAW
RD
CHESHIRE
ENGLAND

112

Printed Matter

AIR MAIL

Peace on Earth

***** MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION *****

NAME _____ AGE ___
ADDRESS _____
CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____
AREA CODE ____ HOME PHONE _____ BUSINESS PHONE _____ EXT# _____
WHAT IS YOUR PROFESSION/VOCATION _____
HOW LONG HAVE YOU OWNED YOUR COMPUTER _____
DATE OF APPLICATION _____ ACCEPTED BY _____